

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66608

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: PJOHNSON

APPROVED BY: S/S-O: PJOHNSON

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O 231658Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 120990 TOSEC 010269

FOLL REPEAT MANILA 7160 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BANGKOK, JAKARTA,
KUALA LUMPUR, SINGAPORE AND CINCPAC 23 MAY 75:

QUOTE

UNCLAS MANILA 7160

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

KL FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB

3.O. 11152: N/A

TAGS: PINT, RP

SUBJ: MARCOS ON US-GOP POLICY

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ADDRESS TO PHILIPPINE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAY 23, PRES. MARCOS ASKED RHETORICALLY
WHETHER US BASES HAD NOT OUTLIVED THEIR USEFULNESS AND LIVED
BEYOND THEIR APPOINTED TIME. HE ALSO WONDERED WHETHER MUTUAL
DEFENSE TREATY HAD NOT BECOME DEAD LETTER IN LIGHT OF EVENTS
IN INDOCHINA, SERVED NO FUNCTION, AND WAS PRODUCING SUSPICION
AMONG PHILIPPINES AND IN ASIA. PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED HE WISHED
US AND GOP TO SIT DOWN LIKE RATIONAL MEN TO EXAMINE SECURITY
REQUIREMENTS OF BOTH PEOPLES. MARCOS ALSO LISTED GOP'S MAIN
FOREIGN POLICY GUIDELINES EMPHASIZING : A) RELATIONS WITH ASEAN
UNCLASSIFIED

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STATES, B) MORE RIGOROUS POLICY OF NORMALIZATION WITH COMMUNIST
NATIONS, C) CLOSER IDENTIFICATION WITH THIRD WORLD, D) CONTINUED
BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN, E) SUPPORT FOR ARAB CAUSE
IN ME AND F) CONTINUING EFFORT FIND NEW BASIS FOR CONTINUING
HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH US IN LIGHT OF EMERGING REALITIES
IN ASIA. END SUMMARY

1. PRES. MARCOS MADE MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ADDRESS BEFORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAY 23. FOLLOWING IS BASED ON AUDIO TAPE. WE SHALL BE TRANSMITTING FULL TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S REMARKS SEPTTEL.

2. AMERICAN BASES. MARCOS BEGAN BY NOTING 1967 ASEAN DECLARATION THAT FOREIGN BASES IN AREA TEMPORARY IN CHARACTER. HE EMPHASIZED BASES EXIST FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND A SPECIFIC PERIOD AND ARE NOT MEANT TO LAST IN PERPETUITY OR TO LINGER BEYOND PERIOD OF MUTUAL INTEREST. MARCOS SAID THAT BASES WERE UNDER-PINNING OF MUTUAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH US AND WERE NOW "UNDER CLOUD OF UNCERTAINTY". HE REFERRED TO LACK OF SPECIFIC PROVISION IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR AUTOMATIC US DEFENSE OF PHILIPPINES AGAINST EXTERNAL AGGRESSION AND ADVERTED TO PROSPECT THAT MOOD OF NATION (REFERRING TO US) NOT LEGAL PROVISIONS WOULD DETERMINE WHETHER US WOULD ACT. MARCOS SAID THAT HE HOPED US WOULD UNDERSTAND AND THEN STRENGTHENED THIS SAYING, "US MUST UNDERSTAND" THAT PHILIPPINES' SHEER PHYSICAL SURVIVAL IS AT STAKE. THEREFORE THE GOP LIKE THE US RESERVED ITS RIGHT TO MAKE ITS OWN ACCOMMODATION WITH NEW REALITIES IN ASIA. PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED GOP WAS NOT ACTING OUT OF HOSTILITY, SPITE OR IMPATIENCE BUT BECAUSE SURVIVAL OF PHILIPPINE PEOPLE AND NATION WAS AT STAKE. HE SAID GOP AND US MUST QUICKLY COME TO UNDERSTANDING WHETHER US STILL NEEDS BASES. IF US DOES NOT, THEY SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE AND COULD PROVOKE UNWANTED AGGRESSION AGAINST PHILIPPINES. MARCOS EMPHASIZED US-GOP WERE OLD ALLIES AND FIRMEST OF FRIENDS. THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO REACH UNDERSTANDING.

3. MARCOS SAID HE WAS NOT WAVING PLACARDS SAYING "AMERICANS GO HOME" BECAUSE AMERICANS AND FILIPINOS TOO DEEPLY ATTACHED TO ONE ANOTHER. HE SIMPLY WISHED US AND GOP TO SIT DOWN LIKE RATIONAL BEINGS AND EXAMINE AND EXPLAIN THE REQUIREMENTS OF BOTH SIDES. MARCOS, HOWEVER, ASKED RHETORICALLY WHETHER UNCLASSIFIED

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"BASES HAVE NOT OUTLASTED THEIR USEFULNESS AND LIVED BEYOND THEIR APPOINTED TIME." HE ASKED TOO WHETHER MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY WAS NOT DEAD LETTER IN LIGHT OF INDOCHINA DEVELOPMENTS, NO LONGER SERVING USEFUL PURPOSE AND MERELY CAUSING SUSPICIONS AT HOME AND IN ASIA. MARCOS EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, AMERICANS WOULD ALWAYS BE WELCOME HERE BUT THAT NEW FOUNDATION MUST BE CREATED FOR AMERICAN-FILIPINO RELATIONSHIP.

4. EXPOSITION OF GOP POSITION ON SECURITY RELATIONS WITH U.S. CAME AT END OF MARCOS' 45-MINUTE SPEECH ON FOREIGN POLICY. EARLIER PRESIDENT HAD STRESSED THAT "NATIONAL INTEREST NOT IDEOLOGY MUST DICTATE GOP RELATIONS WITH OTHER STATES. MARCOS SAID GOP'S MAIN FOREIGN POLICY GUIDELINES WERE TO:

1) INTENSIFY RELATIONS WITHIN ASEAN

2) PURSUE MORE RIGOROUSLY ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH
SOVIET UNION, PRC AND OTHER COMMUNIST STATES

3) CLOSER IDENTIFY WITH THIRD WORLD WITH WHOM GOP SHARES
SIMILAR PROBLEMS

4) CONTINUE BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN

5) SUPPORT ARAB COUNTRIES IN THEIR JUST STRUGGLE FOR
PEACE IN THE ME

6) CONTINUE TO FIND NEW BASIS COMPATIBLE WITH EMERGING
REALITIES IN ASIA FOR CONTINUING HEALTHY RELATHIONSHIP WITH US.

5. ON ASEAN MARCOS REFERRED TO RECENTLY CONCLUDED MINISTERIAL
IN KL ANDSDRAFT TREATY OF AMITY WHICH HE SAID WAS FIRST OF
MANY STEPS TOWARD EVENTUAL REALIZATION OF ZONE OF PEACE IN
AREA. MARCOS SAID THAT ASEAN COULD NO LONGER INSULATE ITSELF
FROM POLITICS AND MUST INCREASINGLY TAKE ON A POLITICAL
DIMENSION.

5. REFERRING TO INDOCHINA, MARCOS NOTED INCREDIBLE SWIFTNESS
OF DEVELOPMENTS THERE. HE EXPECTED EVENTUALLY ALL OF INDONCHINA
MIGHT BECOME COMMUNIST. NEVERTHELESS, PRESIDENT SAID HE HELD
UNCLASSIFIED

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OUT FRIENDLY HAND TO INDOCHINA AND SAID GOP WAS PREPARED TO
ASSIST IN ENORMOUS TASK OF POSTWAR CONSTRUCTION. BOP WAS ALSO
PREPARED TO CO-EXIST PEACEFULLY WITH INDOCHINA AND HE WELCOMED
FURTHER EFFORTS TO BUILD UP A HEALTHY SYSTEM OF RELATIONS IN SEA.

6. MARCOS SAID US WITHDRAWAL FROM INDOCHINA HAD CREATED A
DISEQUILIBRIUM WHICH AT LEAST IN SHORT RUN COULD CAUSE
SERIOUS PROBLEMS. HE SAID SHARP DECREASE OF US INFLUENCE IN
AREA CREATED CERTAIN QUESTIONS TO WHICH THERE WERE NO ANSWERS.

1) WILL PRC BREAK DETENTE WITH U.S.?

2) WILL JAPAN BE DRIVEN TO ATTAIN SUPER POWER STATUS BY
DEVELOPING ATOMIC CAPABILITY?

3) WILL USSR ATTEMPT TO FILL VACUUM IN AREA?

4) WILL US CONTINUE TO PLAY ROLE AND FULFILL ITS TREATY
COMMITMENTS?

ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS REQUIRED THE GOP TO REASSES ITS
POLICY IN "RIGOROUS FASHION". MARCOS EMPHASIZED THE GOP
WOULD NOT ACT IN HASTE OR IN PANIC BUT IT HAD TO ACT BEFORE
GOP FOUND ITSELF VICTIM OF DEVELOPMENTS BEYOND ITS CONTROL.

HE AGAIN EMPHASIZED POSSIBILITY OF LOCAL INSURGENCY FUELED
BY SUCCESSIVE INSURGENCY IN INDOCHINA AND ALSO POSSIBILITY
OF OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE AS RESULT OF NATIONAL INSTABILITY.

7 COMMENT: WE SHALL BE TRANSMITTING COMMENTS ON MARCOS'
SPEECH SEPTEL.

SULLIVAN UNQUOTE

INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, NATIONAL SECURITY, TOSEC 10269, SPEECHES, MILITARY BASES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE120990
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S-O: PJOHNSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750182-0120
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197505103/baaaakpu.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by maginmm>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINT, RP, US, (MARCOS, FERDINAND)
To: SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006